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Kohl, Craxi urge U.S.-Soviet talks

STRESA, Italy (R) — West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl and Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi Wednesday made a joint call for a resumption of arms talks between the United States and the Soviet Union. "We feel there is an urgent need to speed up peace initiatives between the two nations so that 1985 can be a year of negotiations," Mr. Craxi said at a joint news conference after the two leaders met for routine bilateral talks in this Italian lakeside resort. Dr. Kohl said he intends to impress upon President Reagan when he goes to Washington this month that there is a need for a speedy revival of U.S.-Soviet dialogue. "I think that after Reagan's strong electoral mandate the time is ripe to act quickly," he said, adding, "I intend to speak intensively with him about this issue and I am very pleased that Italy is backing us in this course of action."

U.S. rules out prisoner swap

LONDON (R) — The British government said Wednesday it would not be "persuaded" into swapping jailed Libyans for British prisoners held in Libya. Foreign Secretary Francis Pym said the government would not follow the policy of handing over those convicted in British courts of terrorist offences, this would greatly increase the danger to British subjects in many other parts of the world. He said four Britons have been detained in Tripoli since the two countries broke off diplomatic relations over a siege at the Libyan embassy in London last April. Two are being held without charge and the others were accused last week of spying. The Foreign Office said Libya had not publicly proposed any swap. But diplomatic sources said Tripoli had unofficially hinted that the prisoners would be freed if Britain released five Libyans awaiting trial on bombing charges.

Canada refuses visa to Kahane

OTTAWA (R) — Rabbi Meir Kahane, founder of the militant Jewish Defence League, has been refused an entry visa to Canada, an immigration department spokesman said Tuesday. Rabbi Kahane, who planned to speak to university students in Toronto later this month, was turned down because "he could pose a threat to Canadians because of his past history as an advocate of violence," the spokesman said.

Lebanon detains Cypriot vessel

BEIRUT (AP) — The cargo ship, "Miramar," was escorted Wednesday by a Lebanese navy patrol because it was suspected of being on a smuggling mission, police said. State radio and privately owned stations, which carried the police report, said the ship was intercepted by the patrol at dawn, Wednesday as it entered Lebanese waters off the coast of northern Lebanon, and was forced to dock at the Beirut port. They said the ship flew a Cypriot flag and its captain was a Syrian national who was officially not accredited to the job.

French envoy in Beirut

BEIRUT (AP) — Francois de Grossouvre, an adviser to French President Francois Mitterrand, was in Beirut Wednesday in preparation for Mr. Mitterrand's scheduled visit to Syria later this month, government officials said. Local newspapers and radio said Mr. de Grossouvre, who arrived Tuesday, was to meet with Lebanese President Amin Gemayel and Prime Minister Rashid Karami before travelling to Damascus. Mr. Mitterrand is scheduled to meet with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad and other Syrian officials during a visit starting Nov. 26.

Bomb damages bank in Qom

TEHRAN (R) — A bomb badly damaged a bank in the Iranian holy city of Qom Tuesday, wounding five people, the Tehran newspaper Etemad reported Wednesday. The blast rocked a branch office of the Saderat Bank and two of the bank's employees were among those hurt, it said. Three women were also injured. The motive for the bombing was not known. The bank is in the same building as offices of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, an Iranian-based Iraqi opposition group.

Saudi plane runs into fire in Beirut

BEIRUT (R) — A small civilian aircraft owned by a Saudi Arabian company Tuesday, encountered anti-aircraft fire as it approached Beirut airport, airport sources said. They said the plane was not hit and landed safely at the airport, next to the Mediterranean coast, south of the city, with no reports of anyone hurt. The sources said the plane had apparently lost its way and run into anti-aircraft fire as it flew over southern Beirut. It was not immediately known who had fired on the plane.

Lebanon to continue Naqoura talks after Israel frees Amal men

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanon Wednesday announced the resumption of troop withdrawal talks with Israel after the Israelis agreed to free Shi'ite Muslim leaders seized in South Lebanon when the talks began last week.

Prime Minister Rashid Karami told reporters after a cabinet meeting the talks would resume Thursday, five days after Lebanon suspended them until the four senior officials of the Shi'ite movement Amal were freed.

Three of the four men were Wednesday in Sidon, South Lebanon's main city where they were seized last Thursday. Amal sources in Beirut said the fourth would be freed Thursday under a compromise agreement brokered by American and United Nations envoys.

One of the released men told Reuters reporter Nazih Mustafa in Sidon he had been mistreated by the Israelis in detention.

Milhem Qansouh, a lawyer and Amal information officer in South Lebanon, said the four men had been shooed with rifle butts by Israeli troops forcing them to board a truck.

Mr. Qansouh said the four men had been questioned separately for six consecutive hours and "mistreated" during that time. He said they were held first at an Israeli interrogation centre at Mar Elias, east of Sidon, and then at an unidentified location.

The Amal source said the fourth man, Mahmoud Fajih who is a member of the movement's national politburo and its president for South Lebanon, would be freed either during or after Thursday's session of the troop withdrawal talks.

Announcing the restart of the talks, Mr. Karami said Lebanon had taken a stand after Israel's seizure of the four Amal political officers "to affirm that we cannot accept anything such as pressure and blackmail."

"We suspended the negotiations to achieve certain steps which had to be taken, and as a result of contacts agreement was reached on this and accordingly the talks will be resumed tomorrow," Mr. Karami said.

Israeli agents seized the four men on Nov. 8 during the first session of the troop withdrawal talks at the Lebanese border town of Naqoura. Lebanon demanded their release and announced suspension of the talks two days later.

Thursday's session is scheduled as the first substantive round of talks on "security arrangements" in South Lebanon prior to an Israeli withdrawal.

Talks are expected to be long and tough, and Amal leader Nabih Berri, who is minister of state for South Lebanon, has said Lebanon will demand the release of hundreds of southerners detained by Israel without legal process as soon as they resume.

Mr. Berri was the driving force behind Lebanon's refusal to continue negotiating until the Israelis agreed to free the four members of his Amal movement.

During negotiations for their release, he told Reuters Amal would not heed demands by Israeli officials to stop resistance attacks on its troops during the talks. He pledged to continue the almost daily attacks "until the last (Israeli) soldier leaves my country."

U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy shuttled between Israel, Beirut and Damascus to work out the compromise. U.N. Envoy Jean-Claude Aimee was also involved.

In another step to prepare for a takeover in the south, Mr. Karami said the Muslim-Christian cabinet had empowered the army to take over the coast road between Beirut and Israel's Awali River lines 40 kilometres south.

It would also take over the Iktim Al Kharrub region north of Israeli lines, where rival militias confront each other, to prevent fighting when the Israelis leave.

Factional leaders have already agreed in principle to a move south by a confessionally-mixed army force through areas held by their militias.

Mr. Karami said the cabinet also agreed on full army takeovers of Beirut and the northern part of Tripoli and total withdrawal of militias still evident in both cities.

The army would simultaneously move north to take over the Christian-dominated coastal highway between Tripoli and Beirut.

The cabinet also appointed Druze Brigadier Mahmoud Tay Abu Darham as army chief of staff. His predecessor was killed in an air crash in August.

Freeing the four men would be a major topic in Mr. Karami's talks with President Hosni Mubarak and Prime Minister Kamal Hassan Ali.

Meanwhile in Rome, Mr. Craxi and his foreign minister, Giulio Andreotti, had talks Wednesday with U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy, who is on his way back to America from Lebanon.

Official sources said Mr. Murphy briefed the Italians on recent American diplomatic initiatives in the Middle East during the hour-long meeting in a room at Rome's Ciampino airport.

The sources said the three men discussed United Nations efforts for a resumption of negotiations between Israel and Lebanon, the Palestinian question, and U.S. diplomatic relations with Iraq, which have been suspended for 17 years.

Mr. Murphy later left Rome for Washington, via Paris.

Italy supports Palestinian right to independent state, Craxi says

CAIRO (AP) — The Palestinian people are entitled to a state of their own, Italian Prime Minister Bettino Craxi was quoted as saying in a Cairo magazine interview published Thursday in the state-owned weekly Al-Mussawwar.

"The Palestinian people have the right to a land, a homeland and a state," the magazine quoted him as saying in reply to a question about Italy's position on the Palestinian issue.

"In line with its position within the European Community, Italy believes the Palestinian people should be enabled, through a suitable framework and as part of a comprehensive peace settlement, to exercise the right to self-determination with everything that this entails," Mr. Craxi said.

The 1980 Venice Declaration on the Middle East adopted by a European Community summit called for Palestinian self-determination and urged that the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) be associated with any peace negotiations.

Israel opposes a Palestinian state in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip. It also rejects any talks with the PLO.

Al-Mussawwar said Mr. Craxi granted the interview on the occasion of his three-day official visit to Egypt scheduled to start on Saturday.

Mr. Craxi said any equitable peace settlement should involve "recovery by the Arabs of their occupied lands" and meet Israel's "security requirements."

Italy is scheduled to take over the chairmanship of the European Community next January. Egyptian officials have said they hoped the community will play a more active role in supporting American-sponsored peace efforts during U.S. President Reagan's second term.

The officials said this will be a major topic in Mr. Craxi's talks with President Hosni Mubarak and Prime Minister Kamal Hassan Ali.

Craxi, Murphy confer

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Jordan celebrates Hussein's birthday

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan Wednesday marked the 49th birthday of His Majesty King Hussein with nationwide celebrations and important events highlighting some of the achievements of the Kingdom has witnessed during the King's reign.

In Amman Minister of Communications Mohammad Adoub Al Zabab, deputising for Her Highness Princess Alia, officially opened a week-long exhibition of Jordanian postage stamps and rare collections and 118 collections of Chinese stamps at the Royal Cultural Centre.

The Department of Antiquities opened museums and archaeological sites for all citizens free of charge, while Radio Jordan and Jordan Television prepared special programmes featuring King Hussein's life and the developments Jordan has witnessed during his rule.

In Irbid a large number of people from all sectors organised a march which toured the streets of the city, starting from Irbid Municipality Stadium. The Armed Forces musical troupe headed the march while marchers, holding Jordanian banners and flags, chanted national songs and performed dabke dances. Irbid Governor Mohammad Ali Al Amin opened an Islamic book exhibition and a children's garden in the eastern part of Irbid as part of the city's celebrations.

New gas turbine units inaugurated near Amman, page 3

'Resumption imminent of U.S.-Iraqi diplomatic ties'

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq and the United States are expected to announce the restoration of diplomatic ties, broken by Baghdad over the 1967 Arab-Israeli war, at any moment, authoritative sources said Wednesday.

They said Iraq's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz was due to leave for the United States Thursday for talks with Vice-President George Bush, Secretary of State George Shultz and possibly President Reagan.

"Restoration of ties between the two countries will surely be announced before or during Aziz's visit to the U.S.," one source said.

Western diplomats in Baghdad said last month that prospects for a resumption of ties between the United States and Iraq, which has close links with the Soviet Union, had been discussed in New York by Mr. Aziz and Mr. Shultz.

Iraqi President Saddam Hussein later told the Lebanon's Al Watan Al Arabi magazine: "We are going to study Iraqi-American relations after the (U.S. Nov. 6) elections."

Bilateral relations have improved steadily over the past few years and the United States Information Service recently reopened its Baghdad office.

Diplomatic affairs are currently handled by a U.S. interests section at the Belgian embassy.

Space shuttle astronauts retrieve second satellite

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida (R) — The astronauts of the space shuttle Discovery Wednesday recovered a second wayward satellite.

Astronaut Dale Gardner "speared" the Western satellite by thrusting the tip of a grapple device into an exhaust nozzle. He then guided the satellite back to the cargo bay to stow it for the return to Earth.

Strapped into a jet backpack, Gardner floated over to the satellite as the sun rose over the edge of the Earth about 350 kilometres below.

He waited until he was shielded from the sun's glare by the shuttle's shadow, then slid the two-metre long "stinger" of the grapple attachment into the satellite's exhaust nozzle.

Gardner triggered the stinger's clamp device, then began slowly rotating with the satellite as the clamp gripped the inside of the exhaust tube.

After tightening the grip with a ratchet, he stopped the rotation with a burst of his jets.

Fateh prepares for PNC session despite opposition

By Lamis K. Andoni and Hamadeh Faraaneh Jordan Times Staff Reporters

AMMAN — Fateh, the biggest commando movement within the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), is going ahead with preparations to convene the Palestine National Council (PNC) in Amman on Nov. 22 despite mounting opposition by other Palestinian factions.

Fateh officials told the Jordan Times Wednesday that invitations, signed by the PNC's deputy speaker, Adhdeh Za'anoun, have already been sent out to PNC members and five Amman hotels have been reserved for those who would attend the council session.

The Damascus-based speaker of the PNC, Khaled Al Fahoum, however, strongly criticised his deputy's action, describing it as "illegal." In an interview with the state-run Damascus Radio, Mr. Fahoum said Mr. Za'anoun, who is a member of the Central Committee of Fateh, had "no right to convene the PNC."

The speaker of the PNC is the only authorised official to call the council to session, Mr. Fahoum said, questioning the legality of the planned session. "An invitation by one faction is not valid," he said, adding that in the event of failure on the PNC speaker's part to call the council to meet, the PLO Executive Committee, the PNC Præsidium or the general secretaries of all the factions are the only parties authorised to do so.

The most harsh criticism of Fateh's decision to convene the PNC in Amman on Nov. 22 came from Syrian-backed rebels within the movement, who are demanding the resignation of PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat before the council is called to session. The rebels also threatened to convene another meeting parallel to the PNC session planned to be held here.

Colonel Saeed Musa (Abu Musa) told a press conference in north Lebanon Tuesday that he will call for such a meeting.

Contacted by the Jordan Times over the phone, Mr. Fahoum Wednesday asserted that he would not attend "any alternate PNC in Damascus." Convening a PNC session in the Syrian capital "is as dangerous in its consequences as a council called by Fateh to meet in Amman," he said. "Both meetings, if convened, will lead to a dangerous split in the PNC," he contended.

Mr. Fahoum added that he has informed all PLO factions of his stand.

Asked what position would the "democratic alliance" adopt if Fateh rebels and other Syrian-backed factions grouped in the "national alliance" refused to attend a meeting of the PLO Executive Committee held according to the plan, Mr. Hawatmeh avoided a direct reply and said: "We hope that the 'national alliance' would shoulder its responsibility and participate."

"However," he added, "we shall abide by PLO Executive Committee decisions and the Central Council resolutions regardless of the outcome of the session."

The suggestions, which were endorsed by 37 of the 62 PNC members living in Jordan, have already been rejected by the Fateh leadership but Fateh sources confirmed that a meeting of alliance representatives with Fateh leaders was to take place in Tunis on Thursday.

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EC states prepare new Middle East peace move

BRUSSELS (R) — European Community states are considering sending a high-level mission to the Middle East early next year to help spur stalled peace moves in the region, Community diplomats said Wednesday.

The move is one of several ideas on the Middle East due to be discussed by the 10 foreign ministers at a meeting here next Tuesday although no decision is likely to be taken before the Community's Dublin summit on Dec. 3-4, they added.

Italian Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti, whose country will preside over the bloc's affairs during the first half of next year, would head the mission which may tour the region to underline European concern about deepening tensions there.

Diplomats said only Greece favoured a new fully-fledged peace offensive. Others felt Europe's main function was to jog Washington into a more active peace-making role.

"Whatever we decide will be meant as a signal rather than an initiative," one senior diplomat said. He added that a declaration on the Middle East would be issued by the summit whether or not it decides to go ahead with the mission.

The more modest aims of most

Community states stem from an awareness that they have little to offer in terms of concrete help to advance the peace process, he said.

"We have very little leverage, especially with Israel," another official said. "All the cards are in Washington's hands."

Diplomats said the move was also meant to tell Washington that the time was ripe for it to resume its Middle East peace efforts after an apparent loss of interest in the run-up to this month's U.S. presidential election.

With President Reagan sweeping back to power in Washington and a new and apparently more flexible coalition government ruling Israel since July, Community states feel it is an ideal time for new moves that could break the deadlock persisting since Egypt's 1979 peace treaty with Israel.

Worries nearer home have largely kept the Soviet Union out of the Middle East picture for some time and Community states feel this is a good opportunity to re-

assert the dominant Western role in the region.

"The West has to get back in there quickly to show there is no vacuum for someone else to step into," one diplomat said.

The Community was prepared to voice its anxieties about the Middle East stalemate but would not yield to pressure from Arab governments to play a direct peace-making role, diplomats said.

The close relations between many Community countries and Arab states and repeated European expressions of sympathy with the Palestinian cause have largely ruled out the Community as a mediator, at least in Israeli eyes, they added.

The community's Venice declaration of 1980 spoke of a special role for Europe in settling the Arab-Israeli conflict and possibly policing it but the Community has not been able to effectively exercise such a role.

But one senior diplomat said the 10 remained convinced that the way to peace lay in the two principles of the declaration — Israel's right to exist within secure boundaries and the recognition of the legitimate rights of Palestinians, including a role for the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Euro-Arab dialogue ends in Tunis

TUNIS (Petra) — The third round of the Euro-Arab dialogue concluded here Tuesday after intensive deliberations among Arab and European participants on a number of political, economic and social issues relevant to the situation in the Middle East.

The Arab side chaired by Jordan, which is the current president of the 82nd session of the Arab League Council, focused in its discussions on the Arab dissatisfaction with the European stand vis-a-vis the Israeli withdrawal from occupied Arab territories which was presented during the Euro-Arab meeting held in Greece late last year.

During the Greece meeting, the Arab side rejected the European text of the suggestions for an Israeli withdrawal from territories occupied since 1967: the Palestinian right to self-determination and the recognition of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) as a legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Chairing the Arab side in the Tunis meeting, Mr. Nabil Nimer who is also Jordan's representative in the Tunis-based Arab League, said the conferees also discussed the issue of an Israeli withdrawal from South Lebanon and the European stand

vis-a-vis Iraq's response to peace initiatives to end its 50-month-old war with Iran.

Mr. Nimer said that the European side in the meeting "came out with a clear impression" on the Arab demands and with a promise to present this impression for discussion during the European Community summit meeting scheduled to be held in Dublin, Ireland next month.

Delivering a speech during the meeting, Mr. Nimer expressed the hope for further Arab-European cooperation and to reach an agreement on the issues discussed. He stressed the will of Arab League countries to step up efforts to continue the Euro-Arab dialogue "despite all obstacles."

"We have made clear time and again the Arab point of view in regards to means for reaching long term agreement and to create a strategy of cooperation between Europe and the Arab World for development and peace," Mr. Nimer said.

In a statement he made to the Jordanian News Agency (Petra), Mr. Nimer said that Arab countries issued the Fez declaration which is based on United Nations resolutions and international laws. The Fez declaration calls for an Israeli withdrawal from all Arab territories, occupied by Israel

since 1967, including Jerusalem; the recognition of the PLO as the legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and the Palestinian right to self-determination on their own soil.

"We were hoping that European countries would have more support of the Arab cause to put an end to the Israeli arrogance and disregard to international norms and human rights," Mr. Nimer said.

In regards to the Lebanese crisis, Mr. Nimer said the Arab countries carried out intensive efforts on all levels to emphasise Lebanon's sovereignty and independence and the necessity of the application of Security Council Resolutions 508 and 509.

Mr. Nimer called on European countries to halt all kinds of aid and assistance to "the party which rejects peace initiatives to put an end to the Iran-Iraq war." He said that Iraq has responded positively to all peace efforts based on the United Nations resolutions and that "there should be a more firm European stand."

He said the Euro-Arab dialogue would continue as a very important step to reach a just and comprehensive settlement to the problems in the area. "It is an irreversible decision which we plan to pursue," Mr. Nimer said.

Israeli army plans to fire 2,000 soldiers

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israel's army plans to fire 2,000 professional soldiers and civilian employees, scrip on food and equipment and cut back on training programmes as part of a national economic austerity programme, top generals said in remarks released Wednesday.

Chief of Staff Lt. Gen. Moshe Levy reported on the austerity measures to Israeli military correspondents on Sunday, but he did not say how they might affect Israel's fighting capability.

A military spokesman quoted Gen. Levy as saying the cutsback will bring "a change in the mode of operations and planning for the next year," at a time when Arab Armed Forces were integrating new weapons systems acquired from both the West and the Communist Bloc.

The Jaffee Centre for Strategic Studies at Tel Aviv University estimates Israel's professional army numbers 130,000 soldiers, supported by 310,000 reservists.

Quartermaster General Haim Erez said 25 per cent of his budget was being cut but the exact amount was classified.

Prime Minister Shimon Peres' cabinet decided to trim the defence budget, which is estimated to be nearly \$6 billion, as part of the government's battle against a drain on foreign currency and inflation running at rate of about 600 per cent so far this year. Erez said, the army would reduce its purchases, fireless ammunition in training manoeuvres, avoid wasting food and recycle equipment that would otherwise be thrown away.

The army also launched a four-week campaign suspending punishment for any civilian reservist returning stolen equipment. Erez said enough equipment was returned to outfit an infantry brigade: 1,174 firearms ranging from pistols to anti-tank weapons, hundreds of thousands of bullets and 20,000 pairs of fatigues.

Israel's Histadrut Trade Union Federation, on Wednesday predicted rising unemployment and mass demonstrations if the government implements plans to cut spending by an additional \$500 million.

The number of unemployed workers will climb from 83,000 to 100,000, or 7.7 per cent, "in the next few weeks according to our reports from workplaces," said Uzi Bloch, chairman of the Histadrut Employment Authority.

The Central Bureau of Statistics said 5.2 per cent of the workforce or 74,000 people were without work as of five months ago when jobs statistics were last published.

Israeli governments are extremely sensitive to the effect of mass emigration from the country established to absorb Jewish immigrants. Officials fear high unemployment could accentuate the social divisions between Jewish and Arab citizens.

Finance Minister Yitzhak Mordechai is to present a plan for an additional half-billion dollar budget cut in next Sunday's cabinet meeting. The proposed cut threatens to place further strains on public sector jobs. A cut of one billion dollars has already been authorised by the government.

completed at the weekend. The completion of the mutual troop withdrawal was announced jointly by France and Libya on Saturday.

The spokesman referred to a French Defence Ministry communiqué, which said that a Franco-Libyan observer team had monitored the withdrawal during visits to the northern sites of Zouara, Quniatra-Kabir, Faya and Fada.

France plays down reports of new Libyan offensive. PARIS (R) — French officials Wednesday played down reports from N'Djamena claiming that Libyan troops had not withdrawn from northern Chad and were planning a fresh offensive against government-held positions.

An External Relations Ministry spokesman declined to comment on the reports, published Tuesday by the official Chad News Agency ATP, saying the French position had not changed since the Franco-Libyan troop pull-out was

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Fateh prepares for PNC session

(Continued from page 1)

of those who would decline to participate in the meetings because we would consider the decisions and resolutions as those of the majority."

Fateh, meanwhile, appeared determined to convene the council in Amman as scheduled and confident of securing the required quorum for the council to meet.

Fateh Central Committee member and deputy military commander of the PLO, Khalil Al Wazir, told the Associated Press in an interview Wednesday that "the PNC is going to be held in Amman on Nov. 22 as scheduled."

However, doubts over Fateh's ability to secure the quorum were raised by PLO officials and observers alike. Mr. Fahoum told

Damascus Radio he was sure that "150 PNC members would boycott the session in Amman."

Moreover, two senior officials of Fateh have repeatedly failed to talk the 37 PNC members, who endorsed the suggestions calling for meetings of the PLO Executive Committee and Central Council, to attend the planned council session.

Faruq Kaddoumi, head of the PLO's Political Department, and Salah Khalaf, member of the Fateh Central Committee, Tuesday met with the 37 PNC members, well-informed sources told the Jordan Times. But, the sources said, the officials could not reach agreement with the PNC members.

The sources said that the two officials reviewed with the PNC members the history of Fateh's relations with Syria and stressed

that the movement was compelled to reach the decision to convene the council in Amman because of a deadlock in talks with the "national alliance" and the "non-helpful attitude of the democratic alliance."

The sources also quoted Mr. Kaddoumi as telling the PNC members that the Syrians have offered him the chairmanship of the PLO once Mr. Arafat is ousted, but he refused to take up the offer. The sources also quoted Mr. Khalaf as proposing that another PNC meeting could be called in 10 days after the Amman conference if the 37 PNC members agreed to attend.

But, sources close to the PNC members told the Jordan Times that the council members "were not convinced of the two officials' arguments and they felt that they were offered nothing new."

Denktash attacks Greece on anniversary

NICOSIA (R) — Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktash marked Thursday's first anniversary of his unilateral declaration of independence in northern Cyprus by accusing Greece of seeking to annex the island.

Mr. Denktash, in a radio speech Wednesday at the start of three days of celebrations of his "Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus" — recognised only by Turkey — said it would continue as it is "or as one of the federated states of a federal Cyprus Republic."

Mr. Denktash and the Greek Cypriot leader, Cypriot President Spyros Kyprianou, are due to begin a third and final round of separate talks on reunifying the divided island with U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar on Nov. 26.

Iraq reportedly has new basis for Gulf peace

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraq has made new proposals for a solution of the four-year-old Gulf war with Iran, Arab diplomatic sources said.

They said the Iraqi proposals were given to Kuwaiti Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Abdullah Al Sabah, who concluded a two-day visit to Baghdad Tuesday.

The sources declined to give further details, but described the Iraqi proposals as "flexible" and

said they might help to pave the way for a new initiative by the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).

Sources close to the Kuwaiti delegation said Kuwait was expected to contact Moscow and Washington on the new proposals because it was the only GCC state maintaining diplomatic relations with both superpowers. The other five GCC states have ties only with the United States.

Iran says U.N. team must see PoWs in Iraq first

TEHRAN (R) — Iran has denied requesting the postponement of a visit by a United Nations team looking into conditions of prisoners captured in the Gulf war, but says the mission must first visit Iraq to see Iranians held there.

A U.N. spokesman in New York said on Monday Iran had sought a postponement of the visit by the team, due to have arrived in Tehran Wednesday and to have gone on to Iraq after about a week. He gave no reasons for the Iranian request.

TV & RADIO	
JORDAN TELEVISION	BBC WORLD SERVICE 639, 720, 1413 KHz
MAIN CHANNEL	06:00 Newsdesk 06:30 Classical Record Review 06:45 News Review 07:00 World News 07:00 24 Hours: News Summary 07:30 Poshies' Choice 07:45 The World Today 08:00 Newsdesk 08:30 Nature Notebook 08:40 The Evening World 09:00 World News 09:00 24 Hours: News Summary 09:30 24 Hours: News Summary 10:00 24 Hours: News Summary 10:30 24 Hours: News Summary 11:00 24 Hours: News Summary 11:30 24 Hours: News Summary 12:00 24 Hours: News Summary 12:30 24 Hours: News Summary 13:00 24 Hours: News Summary 13:30 24 Hours: News Summary 14:00 24 Hours: News Summary 14:30 24 Hours: News Summary 15:00 24 Hours: News Summary 15:30 24 Hours: News Summary 16:00 24 Hours: News Summary 16:30 24 Hours: News Summary 17:00 24 Hours: News Summary 17:30 24 Hours: News Summary 18:00 24 Hours: News Summary 18:30 24 Hours: News Summary 19:00 24 Hours: News Summary 19:30 24 Hours: News Summary 20:00 24 Hours: News Summary 20:30 24 Hours: News Summary 21:00 24 Hours: News Summary 21:30 24 Hours: News Summary 22:00 24 Hours: News Summary 22:30 24 Hours: News Summary 23:00 24 Hours: News Summary 23:30 24 Hours: News Summary 24:00 24 Hours: News Summary
FOREIGN CHANNEL	12:00 French Programme 13:00 News in French 14:00 News in Hebrew 15:00 News in Arabic 16:00 News in English 17:00 News in Spanish 18:00 News in Italian 19:00 News in German 20:00 News in Russian 21:00 News in Japanese 22:00 News in Chinese 23:00 News in Korean 24:00 News in Hindi
RADIO JORDAN 835 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM & partly on 95.60 KHz, SW	07:00 Light Music 07:30 News 08:00 Morning Show 08:30 News Summary 09:00 Morning Show 09:30 News Summary 10:00 News Summary 10:30 News Summary 11:00 News Summary 11:30 News Summary 12:00 News Summary 12:30 News Summary 13:00 News Summary 13:30 News Summary 14:00 News Summary 14:30 News Summary 15:00 News Summary 15:30 News Summary 16:00 News Summary 16:30 News Summary 17:00 News Summary 17:30 News Summary 18:00 News Summary 18:30 News Summary 19:00 News Summary 19:30 News Summary 20:00 News Summary 20:30 News Summary 21:00 News Summary 21:30 News Summary 22:00 News Summary 22:30 News Summary 23:00 News Summary 23:30 News Summary 24:00 News Summary

WHAT'S GOING ON	
TODAY'S EVENTS	EXHIBITIONS
* An exhibition of engineering books at Yarmouk University in cooperation with the British Council (until Nov. 18).	* An exhibition of engineering books at the Faculty of Engineering, Jordan University, in cooperation with the British Council from Nov. 14 to Nov. 20th.
* An exhibition of Jordanian-Chinese stamps at the Royal Cultural Centre, Wednesday, it runs until Nov. 20.	
PLAY	CONCERTS
* A play for children (5 to 10) "The Musicians of Bremen and Hanzel and Gretel", Hays Arts Centre in cooperation with Goethe Institute at Hays Arts Centre, starting 10:15 a.m. until Nov. 21.	* A concert by Sergio Mendes and friends at 8:00 p.m. Friday Nov. 16 at the Palace of Culture at Al Hussein Sports City.
* The Bluegrass Cardinals, one of America's prominent bluegrass music bands, will be performing Thursday, Nov. 15, at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday Nov. 17, at 4:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. at the Hays Arts Centre.	
CULTURAL CENTRES	PRAYER TIMES
Royal Cultural Centre Tel. 6610267 American Centre Tel. 44371 British Council Tel. 36147-8 French Cultural Centre Tel. 37009 Goethe Institute Tel. 41993 Soviet Cultural Centre Tel. 44203 Spanish Cultural Centre Tel. 24049 Turkish Cultural Centre Tel. 39777 Hays Arts Centre Tel. 661915 Husseini Youth City Tel. 667181 Y.W.C.A. Tel. 664251 Amman Municipal Library Tel. 36111 University of Jordan Library Tel. 843555	06:00 Fajr 06:05 (Sunrise) Duha 11:20 Dhur 14:16 Asr 16:36 Maghreb 18:01 Isha
MUSEUMS	
Folklore Museum: Jewelry and con-	

FOR THE TRAVELLER

AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia information department at the Queen Alia International Airport tel. (08) 53250, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

06:00	Cairo (MS)
06:15	Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
06:30	Bucharest (RO)
06:45	Qagba (RJ)
06:55	Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
07:05	Kuwait (RJ)
07:15	Jeddah (RJ)
07:25	Cairo (RJ)
07:35	Dhahran (RJ)
07:45	Beirut (RJ)
07:55	Dhahran, Riyadh (SV)
11:20	Istanbul, Ankara (TK)
12:05	Muscat, Abu, Dhabi, Bahrain (GF)

14:30	Tripoli, Laranea (LN)
14:45	Kuwait (KU)
15:05	Cairo (RJ)
16:40	Laranea (RJ)
16:45	Baghdad (IA)
17:00	Rio de Janeiro, Lisbon (IA)
17:15	Athens (RJ)
17:15	Qagba (RJ)
17:30	New York, Vienna (RJ)
17:40	Belgrade, Istanbul (RJ)
18:10	Amsterdam, Laranea (KLM)
18:15	Kuwait (KU)
19:25	Zurich, Laranea (SR)
20:20	Athens (OA)
20:50	Cairo (MS)
23:30	London (BA)
00:00	Cairo (RJ)
01:10	Baghdad (IA)

DEPARTURES

06:45	Cairo (RJ)
06:50	Damascus, Frankfurt (LH)
07:00	Beirut (RJ)
07:15	Qagba (RJ)
07:50	Cairo (MS)
08:15	Damascus, Paris (AF)
08:15	Beirut (MEA)
11:00	Vienna, New York (RJ)
11:30	Athens (RJ)
12:10	Paris, London (BA)
12:15	Riyadh, Dhahran (SV)
12:20	Brussels, Frankfurt (RJ)
12:30	Azarka, Istanbul (TK)
13:00	Bahrain, Abu Dhabi, Muscat (GF)

15:30	Laranea, Tripoli (LN)
15:50	Laranea (CY)
17:15	Kuwait (KU)
19:30	Kuwait (RJ)

20:15	Jeddah (RJ)
20:30	Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)
20:45	Cairo (RJ)
21:00	Singapore (RJ)
23:20	Cairo (MS)
02:15	London (BA)

MARITIME TRAFFIC

Regular-line ships docking at Aqaba port:

— Al Khansa
— Arkis Star
— Katak
— Jeddah Crown
— Kota Tamar
— Khamsa
— Somogy
— Ulysses
— Heroi Kosta
— Ibn Shuhaid
— Nagano Maru
— Anwal

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MONEY EXCHANGE

Local sell/buy rates in Jils		
Belgian franc	66.5/	66.9
Dutch guilder	119.2/	120.1
Egyptian guinea	310/	315
French franc	43.8/	44.1
Irish dollar	33.3/	34.0
Italian lire (for 100)	21.6/	21.8
Japanese yen (for 100)	164.3/	165.2
Swedish crown	46.7/	47
Swiss franc	163.7/	164.7
U.K. sterling pound	502.8/	505.8
U.S. dollar	395.5/	397.5
W. German mark	134.6/	135.4

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

As a shallow depression centred in north Egypt is approaching this area, it will become cloudy to partly cloudy, with scattered showers associated with thunderstorms at times. Southeasterly winds will be becoming southwesterly in Aqaba, in Aqaba, it will be partly cloudy, with scattered showers and seas rough.

Low/high temperature in deg. C.

Amman	87/16
Aqaba	14/24
Deserta	9/17

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.	
EMERGENCIES	HOSPITALS
Ambulance 193, 775111 Blood bank 199 Civil Defence rescue 661111 Fire headquarters 22000-3 Police rescue 192, 21111, 37777 Police headquarters 39141 Traffic police 771-1 Electric Power Co. 36381-2 Municipal water service 77125-8 Queen Alia Int. Airport (08) 53333	Husseini Medical Centre 813813-32 Khaldun Medical Centre 44281-4 Al-Balad Medical Centre 44241-1 Jabal Amman Maternity 66171-4 Majma' Al Amman 36140 Palestine, Shamsi 664171-4 Shamsi Hospital 669131 University Hospital 84545 Dr. Al-Shida, J. Hussein 667158 Al-Munasher Hospital 66722-9 The Islamic, Abdali 665292 Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164 Al-Balad, Abdali 77101-3 Al-Bashir, J. Abdali 77111 Army, Marjeh 91611
NIGHT DUTY	GENERAL
AMMAN: Dr. Kamal Al-Ramahi 770018	Jordan Television 773111 Jordan Radio 774111 Ministry of Tourism 43311 Hotel complaints 664112 Police complaints 661176 Telephone: Information 12 Jordan and Middle East calls 10 Cable or telegram 18 Repair service 15
MARKET PRICES	
Upper flour price in Jds per kg. Apple (golden) 200/160 Apple (local) 200/160 Apple (stark) 200/160 Banana 280/240 Banana (Mekassar) 240/210 Beans 550/500 Broad beans 550/500 Cabbage 140/110 Chestnut 350/750 Chestnut 120/110 Chestnut 140/110 Chestnut 100/80 Chestnut 200/170 Dates 100/70 Eggplant (large) 100/70 Eggplant (small) 100/70 Eggs 400/350 Grape 180/150 Grapes 280/200 Grapes 120/90 Guava 200/160	Lebanon 120/100 Mango 220/180 Mango 140/110 Mango 100/80 Mango 210/180 Mango 240/210 Mango 580/550 Olives (green) 140/100 Olives (Ala Sana) 230/200 Orange (Shamsi) 150/120 Parsley 180/150 Parsley (American) 250/220 Parsley (sweet) 180/150 Parsley (hot green) 180/150 Pomegranates (sweet) 180/150 Potatoes 200/170 Raspberries 100/80 Spinach 180/150 Tomatoes 180/150 Turnip 130/110

FOR FRIDAY	
JORDAN TELEVISION	FOREIGN CHANNEL
MAIN CHANNEL	18:00 French Programme 19:00 News in French 20:00 News in Hebrew 21:00 News in Arabic 22:00 News in English 23:00 News in Spanish 24:00 News in Italian 25:00 News in German 26:00 News in Russian 27:00 News in

Husseini condoles At-Said family

Amman, Nov. 14 (UPI) — His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday delivered a message of condolence to the family of the late President Anwar Sadat, who died last week.

Hikmat discusses cultural literature programmes

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Culture, Tourism and Antiquities, Taha Hikmat Tuesday called for a "Western cultural invasion" through the creation of serious and meaningful programmes.

Mr. Hikmat was speaking during a meeting with the members of the Jordanian Writers Association (JWA) administrative committee. He also stressed the importance of cooperation between the JWA and the various authorities concerned with a view to promoting and developing cultural relations.

The ministry will publish all cultural productions and called for reviving the theatre work which serves the goals and objectives of our people and homeland. Mr. Hikmat added:

Speaking about Afkar magazine, which has recently been suspended, Mr. Hikmat said that the magazine was originally designed for excellent writers and therefore it should be reissued in a new form, coping with the reasons behind its establishment. Mr. Hikmat then called for re-introducing the special system whereby excellent writers will be granted meritorious prizes.

The meeting was attended by Director of Culture and Arts, Haidar Mahmoud.

Ministry allocates JD 916,000 for joint service programmes

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment has allocated JD 916,000 to finance projects that will be carried out by joint services councils in the country. Priority in projects will be given to services connected with cleanliness, combating pollution and other public safety enterprises, according to a ministry spokesman.

He said that other projects which these councils would finance from the allocation include building slaughter houses to serve neighbouring villages, joint schools, joint public libraries and garbage disposal dumps. Agreement has been reached with the Ministry of Education that these councils will provide 50 per cent of the cost of building joint schools for groups of villages, the spokesman added.

Robert falls in love with Marion and proposes to her; she refuses and prefers Jimmy, her old boyfriend, to Robert, the socially well-established man.

The professional British actors excelled in their acting roles, especially those roles requiring witty



Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat Wednesday inaugurates two gas turbine units as part of the country's celebrations for His Majesty King Hussein's birthday (Petra photo)

Obeidat inaugurates JEA turbines to mark King's birthday, Jordan's progress

AMMAN (Petra) — Prime Minister Ahmad Obeidat said, "today we celebrate an occasion which is dear to all of us in this country, the birthday of His Majesty King Hussein."

Mr. Obeidat was speaking at the inauguration ceremony of gas turbine units 8 and 9 which were constructed by Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) in Al Muqabalain area south Amman. The inauguration ceremony Wednesday was a part of the country's celebrations of the King's birthday.

Mr. Obeidat said: "We are very pleased to open this vital project which reflects the will and determination of our people. This major project is a great achievement for this country made possible under the victorious leadership of His Majesty King Hussein."

Also speaking in the celebration was Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources and JEA Chairman of the Board, Hisham Al Khatib who welcomed Mr. Obeidat and said that with the operation of these two gas units, the increasing demand for electricity in the country will be met. Dr. Khatib also said that the National Transmission Grid will be supplied with the electrical power for emergencies and during peak load periods.

Current energy situation

In his speech, Dr. Khatib also reviewed the current energy situation in Jordan and confirmed that the situation is satisfactory, pointing out that in 1986 the energy situation will be better upon completion of the Aqaba Thermal Power Station (ATPS). Dr. Khatib affirmed that the increasing rate of individual consumption of electricity in Jordan, which exceeds the rate of consumption in most developing countries, reflects the level of economic and social evolution in Jordan. Dr. Khatib hailed the technical co-

operation between Jordan and Japan saying that JEA has been cooperating with Japanese companies since many years including the one which carried out this project.

Speaking on this occasion was JEA Acting Director General Walid Al Ja'ouni who extended congratulations on behalf of JEA staff to His Majesty King Hussein on his birthday. Mr. Ja'ouni reviewed the national goals which the JEA is seeking to serve Jordanian society and to keep up with the country's economic and social activities. He also reviewed the energy situation in Jordan since 1970 and the development of energy production and individual consumption of electricity.

Effective backup

The two gas turbine units, whose total cost is JD 4,385,000, will remedy any shutdown on the steam units at Hussein Thermal Power Station (HTPS) or at Marqa Power Station and will also strengthen the generated electricity in the country until the completion of ATPS in the second half of 1986. This type of unit is more efficient and can be made operational within a period no more than 15 minutes.

Earlier, upon his arrival at the site the prime minister, accompanied by his deputy and Interior Minister Suleiman Arar, was received by Dr. Khatib, Minister of Planning and Abdullah Nsour, Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment. Hand-drawn by Abdullah Al Nabulsi, JEA members of the board and the Japanese ambassador in Amman.

Surgeons express concern over coronary disease incidence

Heart attacks increase in Jordan

By Simonetta Carr
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The increase in heart attacks and other cardiovascular diseases is a reality physicians know well, and one that the public is rapidly coming to realise. "Unfortunately we have no statistics to demonstrate these observations, but it is a fact that heart attacks are on the increase in Jordan," Dr. Yousef Goussous, Senior Cardiac Consultant and Medical Director of the Queen Alia Heart Institute at the King Hussein Medical Centre says. And, if this is not enough reason for concern, Jordan has one of the highest incidence rates of coronary heart disease in the Middle East, he adds.

"Not only do we have an increase in the incidence of heart attacks," says Dr. Zakariya Daoud, at the Department of Cardiology, at the University of Jordan Hospital in Amman, "but it is impressive how younger ages are now affected. In the late 1960's, when I returned to Jordan from England, the average age affected by heart attacks was 55 and over. It gradually moved down to 45-55, then 35-45, and it is now as low as 30, sometimes even lower," he adds.

Dr. Jawdat Khalaf, specialist in internal medicine and cardiology and a qualified member of the American board and private practitioner in Amman, agrees with these findings. "My youngest patient to suffer from a heart attack was 16," he recalls. Dr. Khalaf also states that cases of heart attack are still on the increase.

Jordan is certainly not an isolated case in this increase of heart problems. In the USA the incidence of heart attacks has become so alarming that the federal government itself has come to publish dietary recommendations in the U.S. Senate's Select Committee on Nutrition and Human

explains the high incidence of heart attacks. Most of these risk factors are also correlated, i.e. lack of exercise can bring on overweight, which often causes hypertension and so on.

However, during research conducted in 1981, over 111 Jordanian male patients, of mean age 52.5, Dr. Daoud found that most of them had lower than normal cholesterol levels and blood pressure, while triglycerides and blood glucose, both related to diabetes, were higher. Thirty of these patients had a history of smoking and a significant statistical relationship was found between triglycerides levels and cigarette smoking.

"It is widely agreed," Dr. Daoud states, "that a number of variables in combination are associated with increased susceptibility to coronary heart disease and that it is impossible to isolate the statistical effect of any single risk factor. Serum cholesterol, however, did not seem to play a significant role as a risk factor in Jordanian subjects with documented coronary artery disease."

On the other hand, he continues, "diabetes mellitus was diagnosed in 56.8% of the subjects in this study; 70.9% of whom were above the age of 50. Patients with diabetes of adult onset appear to have more coronary artery disease than do control populations not suffering from diabetes," says Dr. Daoud.

"A significant regression coefficient value," he adds, "was found between triglycerides level as a dependent variable and smoking. The nicotine content of tobacco stimulates the mobilization of epinephrine and non epinephrine from a chromaffin tissue, mobilizing substantial quantities of lipids in the serum of smoking."

Dr. Goussous also agrees that, although high cholesterol level and other factors are still important as risk factors in contributing to the hardening of the coronaries, smoking and stress seem to be the main causes of heart disease in Jordan. "There is less cholesterol in our diet compared to the average U.S. diet," he says.

Stress in Jordan

There is no doubt that life in Jordan is becoming increasingly more stressful. The political upheaval in the area, the uncertainty, the economical hardship all contribute to an emotional and nervous state of tension. While Dr. Khalaf takes it as an inevitable part of today's society, especially in industrialised or developing

nations where communicable diseases have almost been eradicated to give place to heart problems, cancer and occupational diseases, and suggests to carefully attempt to avoid all other risk factors in order to lessen the chance of coronary heart disease. Dr. Goussous believes one can also learn how to cope with stress. "You can't quantify stress," he says. "What is a stressful situation for one can be an exciting and happy challenge for another person. It all depends how you react to it."

Individuals who are under continuous stress also tend to smoke more. "Most Jordanian patients I have," Dr. Daoud says, "smoke over 20 cigarettes a day, with an average of 30." While the Ministry of Health has in the past started a campaign against cigarette smoking, Dr. Goussous feels it is still "not very effective" and urges the undertaking of stricter measures for the protection of our hearts.

"Prevention can save so many more lives than cure in the case of heart attack," says Dr. Khalaf. "We can only operate on a few cases each day. But prevention can, and should, start as early as possible, children should be trained in nutrition and general health rules, the media should publish more to make the public aware of the problem. Periodic checkups are also important in detecting early cases, not allowing the disease to progress. Unfortunately, most Jordanians seem to care more for the cure than the prevention, and rarely listen when we ask them to quit smoking or to change their diets. "There is, however, an increasing general awareness of the problem". Dr. Khalaf continues, "and patients are coming for more regular checkups, are conscious of chest pain and there is a new general trend toward exercising more which is good."

Heart attack (or acute myocardial infarction), sudden death and angina pectoris are the consequences of coronary heart, a condition which manifests when the arteries, and in particular those which supply the heart with blood (coronaries), become hard and sclerotic.

Coronary heart diseases depend on a series of risk factors. The more risk factors present in our lives, the more we will be prone to disease of the coronaries and consequently heart attacks. These risk factors include hypertension, high level of lipids (cholesterol) in the blood, diabetes, smoking and stress. Overweight and lack of exercise are also minor risk factors. Coronary heart diseases are also higher in individuals with strong family history of heart problems.

According to Dr. Khalaf, most of these risk factors are present in the average Jordanian and this

Six die in week's road accidents

AMMAN (Petra) — Six people were killed and 95 others were wounded as a result of 184 road accidents which took place all over Jordan during this week, a statistical bulletin issued by the Traffic Department said Wednesday.

The bulletin added that the largest number of accidents took place in Amman area where 51 accidents occurred. Meanwhile 68 people were killed and 940 others were injured as a result of 1,548 road accidents which took place in the various parts of Jordan during July, according to the Arabic daily Sawt Al Shaab.

Queen Alia Heart Institute

Located in the quiet and green surroundings of the King Hussein Medical City compound, the Queen Alia Heart Institute emits a feeling of comfort and efficiency to the visitor. The polished, spotless corridors lead to the wards, to the offices to the four operating theatres for cardiovascular surgery and to the two catheterisation labs.

Built by a generous donation by the Sultan of Oman to the Jordan Armed Forces in 1979, the institute was activated on March 17, 1982 and was officially opened on March 30th, 1983 by the Sultan of Oman and His Majesty King Hussein. The highly-qualified medical staff, however, had been combining their efforts already since 1969 in the old Amman Army Hospital and, in 1973, with the opening of the Hussein Medical Centre, a 60-bed ward for cardiology was located in the premises.

Since then, the number of patients and the fame and reputation

of the staff continually increased and the ward could not cope with the growing need for operations and then the idea of separate, specialised facilities was carried out.

The institute has 100 beds and has an average occupancy rate of 80%. Seventy-five per cent of the patients are usually Jordanians. Well-equipped with the latest facilities, the institute has an average of 40 cardiac catheterisation procedures per week. (Special procedures for a more correct diagnosis, routinely given before any operation), and 20 heart operations per week.

"Although we have room for further extensions", Dr. Yousef Goussous, medical director at the institute, says. "The capacity of the institute is presently sufficient, since no other cases are admitted but cardiac or cardiovascular patients. The institute has always been very successful so far and it is comparable to the best centres in the USA. Open heart surgeries have been conducted by our staff for 15 years."

All the patients' are in private rooms with access to a window view and a veranda or balcony, with private restrooms. They are divided into surgical and medical wards, male and female wards and pediatric wards.

In September 1,074 outpatients were seen at the institute; a daily average of 40, 236 patients were admitted and 64 were operated on. Most of the non-Jordanian patients are from the Arab Gulf or other Middle East countries such as Oman, Syria, Bahrain, Qatar and Lebanon.

Research has only recently started at the institute and since it is very costly, it had to proceed gradually. Dr. David Hanania, Director of the Royal Medical Services and Chief of Cardiovascular Surgery, is however very interested in the promotion of research and has supported a collection of basic data which is now done regularly since the institute six months ago. (S.C.)

London's favourite comedy appreciated by enthusiastic Amman audiences

By Rana Sabbagh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — "There's a Girl in my Soup", a comedy and one of the outstanding cultural activities running in Amman, was presented during a dinner theatre at the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel and has been running since Monday Nov. 11.

This three-act comedy, has run for 2,370 performances in London's West End attracting more than 1.5 million visitors. Author Terrace Frisby, illustrates the life of a womaniser, Mr. Robert Dandvers, who constantly tries his charm and influence on women, but somehow he is frustrated by these continuous trials at catching women. Finally, he meets a somewhat coarse and unforgiving girl, Marion, who gives him a hard time while trying to adapt to his high standard of living.

Robert falls in love with Marion and proposes to her; she refuses and prefers Jimmy, her old boyfriend, to Robert, the socially well-established man.

The professional British actors excelled in their acting roles, especially those roles requiring witty

dialogues, a sense of humour and perfect timing. These actors used their voices, body postures and gestures with full effect, notably the main actors who made the utmost use of their professional acting capacity.

The technical aspects of the play were professionally covered; the set design by Terry Parsons, director of design at Plymouth's Theatre Royal in Great Britain, was simple, a studio flat in London, yet all the action of this play took place in this studio and also helped and enhanced the movements of the actors.

The dramatic structure of the play flowed smoothly, each act

had minor and major climaxes that were pointed out perfectly. The dramatic action that involved a foreshadowing of the story, point of attacks and reversals were in harmony with the finale. The success of pointing out these dramatic structures is credited to the director of this play, Tony Carven, who has directed over 30 productions such as "The Glass Menagerie", "Tempest", and "A Man for All Seasons".

The choice of the play was suitable for the audience, laughter was echoing in the hall, and the audience was enthusiastic about the performance and the actors. They would interrupt by clapping during highly comical moments.



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VIEW FROM AMERICA

By Franz Schürmann

People's spirit more powerful than technology

THE LATEST drop in oil prices sent ripples throughout the American and global business world. It also sent waves amongst the politicians. The thoughts that are on all their minds is: is this the end of OPEC?

It was the British who made the first move. The British cut the price of oil and immediately Nigeria followed. The OPEC countries then hastily consulted. Their first reaction was to raise production in order to force the price of oil up. But can they really? There is too much oil already. Since OPEC was formed, major new producers have come onto the scene: Mexico, Britain and Norway. Saudi Arabia in the early 1970's was able single-handedly to control the world price of oil. Today they have much less control.

In the U.S., gasoline prices have been holding steady or sinking. Chances are now that they will sink even more. That should stimulate the economy. But the American economy has been slowing down lately. And while that will not affect the East Asian economies, it means that the European economies that have just started to recover could now suffer a setback. And that means even less demand for oil. Then there is another factor: the Soviet Union.

Of late there have been signs that the U.S. and the Soviets are going, once again, to come to some agreements. When this last happened, there was no danger of large amounts of Soviet oil coming into the West. Now the Soviets badly need to export their oil in order

to earn foreign exchange. Will the East be willing to take some of this oil in exchange for concessions in regard to political and military matters? Quite possible.

If a U.S.-Soviet agreement should come into being early in the next U.S. administration which contained some understandings about Soviet oil, then this would be bad for the Middle East. The Soviet Union would then emerge as a major exporter on the world oil market. And a decade or so hence, China with its huge oil resources will enter the world oil market. That means even worse news for the Middle East.

All this is speculative, but it could happen. There are good reasons to think the hard-

headed strategists in Washington and London may be thinking in these terms. The Middle East is not the powder keg it once was. The U.S. and the Soviet Union could have clashed when American Marines were in Beirut and could have moved into the Chouf mountains towards the Bekaa Valley. They did not. The Israeli factor has changed. Israel, in the end, was badly hurt by the Lebanon invasion. Discontent is growing in Israel. Disaffection has begun to arise within the once highly unified and motivated "Tsahal," the Israeli army.

At the same time, Iran and Iraq have not yet shown that either "can make a difference." The war looks like a stalemate. Another Iranian AI

Fajr offensive! How far can it really go? Western strategists have their doubts.

The Soviets are badly stuck in Afghanistan. They pose no threat to anyone else at this point.

The only real cloud on the horizon other than the Lebanese, is some slight but worrisome signs of trouble on the India-Pakistan frontier. There is Western worry that internal troubles in India could spill over into another conflict with Pakistan.

All this means the Middle East may be on the way to being downgraded in global political importance. And that means less chances of war. The drop in oil prices so could be a sign of more peaceful times to come.

But it could also mean harder economic times for the Middle East. The super-generous Saudis could be a thing of the past. There just will not be enough dollars to be spread around for both economic development and defence.

The Arab Nation had resources far more noble than oil. Those come from their religion and the great civilisation of the past. To speak of spiritual resources sounds so vague compared to the hard notion of dollars coming from oil lifted from the ground. But as a famous American black radical once said, "the people's spirit is more powerful than the man's technology." (Man is a colloquial American term meaning boss).

The age of initiatives

IN AN interview published in the Wall Street Journal two days ago, former U.S. President Richard Nixon had some words of advice for the Reagan administration's second term. "In a nutshell," the newspaper said, Mr. Nixon's advice was this: "Move quickly. Change some players if you can. But also keep your focus on very few issues. Forget about forging consensus, just lead. Don't ignore the Third World. Don't focus exclusively on arms control. And move on the Middle East no later than early '85."

But the former president's "most surprising bit of advice," according to the newspaper, came in admonishing President Reagan and his team to "acknowledge that the Russians have a role to play in the Middle East."

"In foreign policy, whether the Middle East, Soviet-American relations or any change in direction in Central America, the time to do it is right now," Mr. Nixon said, "slamming his right fist into his left palm 'for emphasis'."

A day or two before the Nixon interview, another former U.S. official and a renowned authority on the Middle East was also giving a word of advice — not to the Reagan administration but rather to the Arabs.

Agreeing that the Soviet Union should be involved in the search for peace in the Middle East, and that the Palestinian problem will be high on the re-elected president's agenda, Dr. Harold Saunders, in a telephone interview with a group of Jordanians last week, called on Jordanians and Palestinians "to take a step that could make it politically impossible for the U.S. to ignore" their cause.

Well, Mr. Nixon knows about American politics much more than any of us here does. Let us hope that President Reagan will listen to his advice, particularly on the Middle East.

Dr. Saunders, having served for several years as assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern affairs, should also know a lot about the Palestinian problem and about American thinking on this area. Let us too think of his words of advice to our peoples and governments.

It would be a great step towards achieving progress in the Middle East if we and the Americans strike a deal to heed the two men's advice on the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Luckily in this respect we think we have a cause to celebrate. The PLO's decision to convene the Palestine National Council (PNC) in Amman on Nov. 22 is no less a courageous decision than that of Jordan to host it here. The event in itself is a big initiative to prepare the Arab side for future steps on the Middle East. And it is for the Americans now to understand this monumental step's significance.

Some people might still wonder about what the whole thing means for the peace process, and whether another convening of the PNC, albeit in Amman, augurs well for the cause of peace. We, for obvious reasons, don't share in these people's scepticism, although it is indeed difficult to explain the new development.

There will soon be an opportunity to explore more and deeper into the Jordanian-Palestinian initiative and its significance. For now the cornerstone has been laid for tremendous action, and it is enough for some at least to notice it. Political work is seldom only speeches delivered and impressive manifestos unveiled.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Productive march

THE JORDANIAN family Wednesday celebrated His Majesty King Hussein's birthday, a dear occasion to every one of this family.

The occasion marks the long but interesting and beautiful, the tiresome but fruitful march of King Hussein, who since his accession to the throne has been working hard for building Jordan and for the welfare and future of the Jordanian people.

The heavy burdens and responsibilities King Hussein has been shouldering have never discouraged him to continue the march, on the contrary they have been an incentive encouraging him to work harder and harder.

"If it has been for anybody to boast of his deeds and achievements, then it should be King Hussein, who should boast of his great achievements."

On this dear occasion, we wish to see the good march His Majesty started going on with all the love and loyalty it carried, and we wish that the Arab flag fly over occupied Jerusalem and every inch of our occupied homeland.

Al Dustour: Along on King's path

THE JORDANIAN family Wednesday renewed its love and loyalty to His Majesty King Hussein who reciprocated the love and loyalty and directed the nation's attention and utmost efforts to achieve its aspirations.

Under the banner of King Hussein, the banner of the Great Arab Revolt, Jordan has moved on the path of progress and ranked high amongst developing countries. The scarcity of resources and lack of finances have never stopped Jordan from continuing its march. On the contrary, it urged Jordan to work even harder until it has become an example for some countries in the area and among developing nations.

The Jordanian people, while celebrating King Hussein's birthday, is pledging to adhere to all principles King Hussein called for and to continue the march under his wise leadership.

The Jordanian people views this dear occasion as a renewal of the determination by the citizens in this country to continue their hardwork in order to accomplish further achievements.

Sawt Al Shaab: For all the Arabs

JORDAN'S CELEBRATIONS Wednesday of His Majesty King Hussein's birthday marks the start of a new era in the life of our country and people. It is an occasion when citizens renew their pledge of allegiance to King Hussein and vow to continue the march under his wise leadership.

The occasion embodies the aspirations of our people and strengthens the cohesion between the leader and the nation and fills their hearts with determination and firmness.

Quite few are the leaders who enrich the history of their nations through hardworking and dedication, and quite few are those who stick to principles. King Hussein is one of those few people. He has been working hard since the day he acceded to the throne, and has adhered to the principles he believed in. Therefore, his name has been linked with the homeland, just as the homeland's name has been linked with his name. King Hussein is living in the hearts and souls of his people, the people whom he loved and for whom he has worked very hard throughout the years of his rule.

King Hussein has never worked for Jordan alone; he has always been working for the whole Arab Nation. He has worked for national pride and Arab solidarity, which is the only way to achieve the Arab people's goals and aspirations.

By Nicholas Moore
Reader

RIYADH — Saudi Arabia is learning to live with the end of the oil boom.

Except in hard-hit sectors of private business where numerous concerns have ceased trading, a curious air of confidence and even of relief pervades the kingdom.

"Thank you for your concern about us," a ranking official close to the decision-making process said during a briefing.

"Ten years ago... the worry was whether we could possibly spend all our money. We really could not go on spending and spending. The end of the boom is a healthy phenomenon."

This view was echoed by Abdullah Dabbagh, secretary-general of the Saudi Arabian Council of Chambers of Commerce, who told Reuters: "For many of us, this is a blessing in disguise. The economy

will be competitive, better..."

Western diplomats and expatriate bankers tend to agree that the kingdom, with fewer than 10 million inhabitants, can probably manage an era of sharply lower petroleum revenues by curbs on spending and by drawing on overseas assets accumulated during the boom.

But they say it is important that the oil price should not crash from its present \$29 a barrel and that the market bear out predictions by the oil minister, Ahmad Zaki Yamani, of a recovery in demand for oil around 1986-87.

Saudi output is around a 15-year low, probably little more than three million barrels per day (BPD) since the kingdom bore the brunt of latest production curbs agreed by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) in its struggle to prevent a price collapse.

The kingdom had hoped to pro-

duce nearer five million BPD — a level attained this spring — throughout the fiscal year ending next March.

Overseas assets hoarded in the boom years may have reached around \$150 billion several years ago, but bankers estimate that they are now down below about \$110 billion.

To husband the diminishing hoard through the lean years, Finance Minister Mohammad Abul-Khalil is exercising strict control of state disbursements.

His goal seems to be to keep a budget deficit for the fiscal year down around a projected \$13 billion, to be met from the reserves, despite what may have been over-optimistic revenue assumptions.

With about 80 per cent of all business activity in Saudi Arabia dependent ultimately on budget disbursement of the royal family's oil earnings, the squeeze is tough on

some.

The finance minister has denied that contractors' payments are being delayed deliberately. But contractors' performances are being subjected to close scrutiny, which bankers and businessmen say means delays before cash is handed over.

The squeeze coincides with what was probably the inevitable end of the country's construction boom, which now seems almost saturated with airports, highways, flyovers, marble-clad office blocks and even palaces. "What were they going to do next?" asked one Western diplomat. "... tarmac the desert?"

Work has also largely been completed on building new oil refining and petrochemicals industries.

"This is state-of-the-art petrochemicals," Mr. Dabbagh said. Still, he estimated, of a total of around 180,000 companies and

one-man establishments, about 300 companies stopped trading last year and more would close this year.

Bankers say they face tough decisions on whether to go on lending to ailing concerns and add that the government has been disappointed in hopes that private entrepreneurs would mobilise their own funds to assist their business.

The outflow of capital during the boom was huge, said one well-placed official, who declined to be identified. "The flow back is a trickle." Businessmen grumble in turn, discreetly, about what they say is high royal spending.

And diplomats speculate whether a leaner private sector and a cash-pinched bureaucracy will be able to provide a rising generation of educated young Saudis with enough jobs of the sort deemed congenial. Saudis tend to disdain

manual toil. With possibly the "Third World's most spectacular" education programme, Saudi Arabia has around one million boys and 500,000 girls in school. Its universities will supply some 7,500 graduates this year.

Another longer-term problem, if oil fails to rebound, will be the cost of operating the infrastructure of gleaming cities, refineries, roads, airports and seawater desalination plants sold to the Saudis in the West's rush to recycle petrodollars.

Lucrative contracts are still forthcoming in some sectors, but the Saudis are now applying extra conditions on contractors.

U.S. companies bidding for a three-to-four-billion-dollar "peace shield" project to back up Saudi AWACS early warning planes are required to invest a large chunk of the money they receive in joint ventures with Saudi firms.



Relatively content Shultz believed to stay

By R. Gregory Nokes
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — U.S. Secretary of State George P. Shultz, described as content despite the U.S. setback in Lebanon and continuing frustrations over "bureaucratic infighting," would like to serve in president Ronald Reagan's second administration, and may get the nod as early as next week, close aides say.

There is no doubt, these aides say, that the White House wants to keep him, even though at least two other prominent figures in the administration, Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger and United Nations Ambassador Jeane Kirkpatrick, would like his job.

Mr. Shultz is expected to discuss staying on with Mr. Reagan after the president returns to the White House from his post-election rest at his California ranch next week. The president already has signaled support for his current cabinet members, saying in a recent interview he would be "just satisfied" if they all stayed.

"I'm not unhappy with anyone," he said. Marlin Fitzwater, a White House spokesman, said Friday he was sure Mr. Shultz would be asked to stay on. "I'm certain the president does want him to stay, and I haven't seen any indication he wants to leave," Mr. Fitzwater said.

Mr. Shultz will be counted on to play the leading role in the ad-

ministration's efforts to improve relations with the Soviet Union in Mr. Reagan's second term. He has held in-depth discussions with Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko on the subject and met last week in India with Soviet Premier Nikolai Tikhonov.

There is speculation Mr. Shultz might travel to Moscow early next year to meet with Soviet officials, possibly to nail down an understanding for resumed major arms control negotiations, which Mr. Shultz favours.

He gets high marks in the administration for his Central American policies, especially the strategy to build credibility for the government of El Salvador through the recent elections in which

Jose Napoleon Duarte won the presidency. Congress is no longer hesitant to appropriate money for Salvadoran authorities to combat leftist guerrillas, who are now seen as on the defensive.

Mr. Shultz won Mr. Reagan's agreement to holding talks with the leftist Sandinista leadership of Nicaragua, although others in the administration were strongly opposed.

Mr. Shultz, 63, now has what his aides describe as an upbeat attitude towards his job, to which he was appointed after Mr. Reagan accepted the resignation of Alexander M. Haig Jr. in June 1982. One senior aide said Mr. Shultz probably would stay a full four years, if Mr. Reagan wants him.

Thai general climbs down over devaluation

By Jose Katigbak
Reader

BANGKOK — A newspaper cartoon showing the sun being eclipsed by a coin could foreshadow the future of Thai army chief General Arthit Kamlang-ek.

This is how Western diplomats interpreted the cartoon which appeared Monday after Gen. Arthit, whose name in the vernacular means "sun," softened his outspoken opposition to last week's devaluation of the baht in the face of a determined government defence.

"Arthit relents" headlined the Bangkok World newspaper after the army chief withdrew his tough demands on Prime Minister Prem Tinsulanonda to reverse the devaluation order and reshuffle his cabinet or face unrest.

Western diplomats said Gen. Arthit's about face on what sec-

ured a collision course with Mr. Prem indicated the army chief did not have the unified support of the military.

The prime minister still commanded the loyalty of key officers, the diplomats said.

A weekend meeting of about 50 senior military commanders including Gen. Arthit reached the consensus that there should be no coup attempt against Mr. Prem's coalition government over the devaluation issue, informed army sources said.

Gen. Arthit is scheduled to leave the top military post when he reaches the mandatory retirement age of 60 next year but his supporters are lobbying for an extension of his term.

Diplomats, however, said Gen. Arthit's open involvement in politics may have eroded this support.

The controversy between Gen. Arthit and Mr. Prem broke out

last week when the government devalued the baht from 23 to 27 to the dollar and floated it against a basket of currencies.

Gen. Arthit denounced the 14.8 per cent devaluation saying it would cause the people hardship and severely affect the military's development plans.

He warned Mr. Prem that if chaos and instability broke out as a result of the devaluation "don't call on us (the military) because it will not be our responsibility."

Acting swiftly to meet his gravest political challenge since taking over as prime minister in March, 1980, Mr. Prem assured the military that funds would be made available for defence programmes to offset losses caused by the devaluation.

But he ignored demands for a cabinet reshuffle and defended the devaluation of the baht as nec-

essary to revitalise the country's economy and stem its growing trade deficit.

Diplomats said Mr. Prem's assurance that there would be no defence spending cuts helped defuse the situation.

The prime minister also strongly opposed an opposition move to recall parliament from recess to discuss a motion of no-confidence against the government.

Gen. Arthit, in interviews with reporters Monday, sought to play down his differences with Mr. Prem. He said he did not want a change in government, only a change in economic policies to safeguard the people's living standard.

He described the controversy as a misunderstanding and said under a democracy anyone could express his own sentiments.

Finns criticise grip of monopoly capital

By Patrick Humphreys
Reader

HELSINKI — Finland has nurtured a string of big firms able to hold their own in Europe, but at home there is growing concern that monopolies are stifling the economy.

Consumer protection groups say monopolies and cartels are inflating prices and restricting trade. "There are monopolies and regulated prices throughout the economy," says political journalist Aarno Lahtinen.

Situated between the Soviet Union and the welfare state of Sweden, Finland (population five million) is sometimes called a free capitalist country between socialist neighbours.

Aided by a strong stock market and an appreciating currency, there are now 12 Finnish companies in Europe's top 500 by market capitalisation, according to the London Financial Times.

"Capitalist definitely," says Mr. Lahtinen of his native land, "but not free market."

Transport is completely regulated, he says, while paper, construction and pharmaceutical companies operate cartels.

Energy, broadcasting, sugar manufacture, meat processing and the dairy industry are all monopolies, he says, while in the engineering industry a number of companies have grown so large that they have virtual monopoly powers.

Criticism of previously sanctioned monopolies has centred on recent attacks on the state-owned oil company, Neste, the only Finnish organisation allowed to import oil.

Finns are paying the highest average pre-tax fuel prices in Western Europe, according to September statistics produced by Shell International, although the country buys crude, principally from the Soviet Union, at world market prices.

The difference, 16 per cent above the Western European average, is too great to be explained by higher freight costs due to Finland's distant location, say energy industry sources.

In a letter to industrialists and politicians in September, industry ministry official Pentti Viita said Neste was headed for crisis because of blind diversification into unprofitable fields, paid for by excessive prices for refined oil.

Fostering competition is a stated aim of the present coalition government, the first ever to mention competition in its programme. A new law now before parliament seeks to broaden the definitions of harmful restrictions on trade.

"At least it would set up a binding tribunal," says competition ombudsman Olavi Vayrynen. At

present his office has no sanctions at its disposal.

Although tendering cartels are forbidden by Finnish law other cartel agreements are sanctioned unless proved contrary to the public good.

"But the new law is not anti-trust legislation," said Mr. Vayrynen. "There's still no upper limit on how large a market share one company may hold."

"Mr. Vayrynen has been pushing for the right to investigate mergers and is particularly alarmed at the dozens of takeovers this year in the construction industry."

But he sees no prospect of government action against market concentration. "This is a very conservative country when it comes to the rights of business," he said.

Regulation is also deeply entrenched in communications. The Finnish Broadcasting Company is sole holder of the licence to broadcast television and radio programmes. Delivery of mail is assigned by law to the postal authority.

Mr. Vayrynen also complains about the regulation of transport. Bus routes and road haulage are regulated by the Ministry of Communications which fixes fares and prevents overlapping or competing routes.

Fairmair controls aviation and, through its subsidiaries, a large part of the package holiday trade. It has strenuously resisted cheaper scheduled air fares.

Taxi routes are so strictly controlled and fares so high that the black market value of a transferable taxi permit in Helsinki is said to be 400,000 finnmaks (\$ 65,000).

Restrictive agreements are permitted among Finnish companies tendering abroad. The rather Jesuitical philosophy is that cartels between exporters can be useful," Mr. Vayrynen says.

But there is growing criticism of the use of official regulations to protect Finnish firms from imports, particularly from Finland's largest trading partner, the Soviet Union.

Trade officials say that, with Finnish-Soviet trade conducted on a barter basis, export growth has been prevented by the problem in finding Soviet goods for import.

According to building industry sources, some Soviet building materials are superior to and much cheaper than Finnish products. But, says Mr. Lahtinen, Soviet cement imports have run foul of spurious specifications set by Finnish officials in cooperation with the two domestic cement makers.

Some economic analysts charge it is monopolies and cartels that have given the Finns the lowest salaries and highest prices in the north of Europe.

THE LITERARY CORNER

Fear Abides in the works of Ibrahim Al-Absi

THE PHYSICAL configuration of Ibrahim Al-Absi, the Jordanian short story writer, is as striking as the intensity of his work. In a Shakerian play or that of an Egyptian movie, when the jovial writer is faced with this observation, he opens his eyes and says: "This is how a short story writer should look: bald, short, dark complexioned and stout." He also adds, "One of my fellow writers once remarked that a short story writer should not be handsome, but rather, he should look like Bernard Shaw's Bluntchli in *Arms and the Man*."

Ibrahim Al-Absi was born in Al-Dawameh/Hebron in 1945. He works as a teacher in the public schools of Jordan. He started publishing his short stories in *Al-Difa* and *Amman* Al-Massa newspapers. His stories are published in the Jordanian and Arab literary magazines. He also published three story collections: "The Grey Rain" (1977), "The Third Alternative" (1981), and "Enemies of Birds-children stories" (1984).

In pursuance of fear in the works of Ibrahim Al-Absi, I elected to present today a short story entitled "The Third Alternative," which was published in the Lebanese magazine "Al-Adab, the Literature, the Iraqi magazine" "Al-Aqlam" (the pen), and was translated and published in the Soviet Magazine of Artistic Literature, edition II, in 1983. I will also trace some obvious inhibitions of fear in another short story entitled "The Grey Rain."

The plot in the "Third Alternative" is common knowledge to every Arab, let alone the Palestinians; it is extensively handled in the Palestinian and Jordanian literature. Abdullah Thiab, a Palestinian peasant, accomplishes his dream by marrying a city girl whom the author calls Maleehah (beautiful) — a name he often gives to his short story heroines. Through this "boly" matrimony, the author symbolically unites the village and the city in the face of evil forces. Haj Abdul Majeed, the chieftain of the village, starts plotting against Abdullah the moment he lays his eyes on Maleehah. The former abducts the bride and adds her to his household collection. He also expropriates Abdullah's land and sells it to the Jews. Abdullah tries to resist but he winds up in the prison of Sarafand. The poor fellow could not bear that: losing the wife (the lover) and the land (the most frequented subject in Palestinian poetry and prose). The leading character spends five years of his life in the prison reminiscing and preparing to act:

"The day I came back with Maleehah, all people came out to see her. The women clapped their chests out of

jealousy and astonishment; the men gasped out of jealousy and admiration; and the boys roamed around singing for the beautiful bride."

Having spent this so long a time in prison, and remembering Maleehah and the land, the afflicted peasant decides to escape despite all the difficulties and hazards reserved for him if he tries:

"When the sun rose, Abdullah Thiab was leaving Sarafand behind him. He started running across the empty and muddy land, with only one warm voice inside him, which grew bigger and bigger and ascended to his lips, 'The rifle.'"

The Soviets, in my humble opinion, have translated this particular short story, not only because it poses the very important issue of resistance, but because it hits upon the universal issue of fear. The author succeeded in utilising his creative and carefully selected language and portrayed this universal issue which normally abides with the oppressed:

"Since our wedding night, fear over Maleehah overwhelmed me. Our town shows no mercy. It is true they are good: they know no perfidy or back stabbing, but fear is still their main concern; fear from everything you see — a my-

In Al-Absi's short story entitled, "The Grey Rain," in which he successfully alludes to the Palestinian emigration and everlasting struggle with the Zionist foe, fear is associated with the coming of the ghoul (intruding ogress) to a peaceful, quiet and content village:

"One night in our village, while I was watching the night and the rain through the window, an intermittent, wild howling hit my ears. The dreadful howling soon transformed into ferocious yelling which monstrously echoed in the darkness. My body biological bird alighting and hatching in every corner and in every curve. You find it painted on all the worn-out walls and inscribed in the eyes of children and women; the fear that the town inherited from the Ottoman reign, and which multiplied when the English came; fear from everything and over anything; fear from drought which sojourned as a heavy guest for seven years; fear from epidemics which had harvested great numbers of people; fear from thieves, brigands and the unannounced visits of the English cavalry, searching for bulls; fear from strangers passing by the road; fear from the morose rocks inhabiting the village mountains; and finally, fear from Haj Abdul Majeed, the Sheikh of the town and its absolute ruler."

quivered with fear. Our town had never known the ghoul's before. Terrified and almost breathless, I dashed into my father's room. He too 'was wide awake: he was sitting on his mattress, smoking, his pipe. His looks seemed unusually frozen."

In another reference, Al-Absi associates fear with rain, for the ghoul came to town while it was raining:

"I no longer feel happy when I see the rain. Stickling to my room. I feel proscribed by fear; my room is proscribed, my home is proscribed, and the whole village is proscribed."

Oppressed by fear, and in many cases oppressed by oppression itself, or oppression and fear sometimes exchange places although they are the best of twins. Al-Absi now asks for help:

I am calling 'for help, but the city is asleep, and nobody will help me. I find myself in a moment of despair. I open my mouth wide and cry; very scared, I cry, I cry like a frightened man in the dark, who finds himself walking amidst hills, trees, darkness, and caves. My yelling comes out as if it were coming out of a mythological mouth—the kind of yelling that sends terror in the veins, and I cannot stop it."

Reviewing all the works of Ibrahim Al-Absi, one can safely trace the foot-steps of fear and oppression and find ex-

licit references to them. There is always the portrayal of abject poverty that even some Jordanian critics did not believe it ever existed (an obvious incident is a mother dividing a boiled egg into four pieces to suffice four children for their lunch meal). But why is Al-Absi so obsessed with fear, oppression and, in many instances, poverty? I think the answer is quite clear if one considers the inhuman living conditions which the author, among millions of others, lived through—thanks to the Israelis. The refugee camp is almost a permanent locale for Al-Absi's stories. True, Al-Absi is inhibited with fear and oppression, although consciously and physically he seems to be free from them, but he can never be ranked with the pessimistic, passive and submissive writers. Fear has always played a positive role in his life and works — sometimes a source of inspiration. Nowhere in his works does he lose hope or faith; on the contrary, he ends most of his stories inciting his people to resort to military struggle against their historical and cultural enemy as the only means of liberation.

Away from fear, I find Al-Absi a short story writer who possesses a talent of story telling. Therefore, I find it my duty to call on Ibrahim Al-Absi to utilise this talent in writing novels and plays.

— Ahmad Jaber

Randa Habib's Corner

Happy birthday, your Majesty

I DON'T know how one feels when one blows one's 49 birthday candles, not having reached that age yet.

But what I am sure of is that a birthday is the occasion for each one of us to weigh up one's life.

A young boy, a student at Victoria College of Alexandria, used to see his trousers because he couldn't afford to buy new ones. A young man, not yet 17 years old, who dreamt of holidays at the end of his school year near the Lac Leman, became a king.

A young king woke up one day thinking that from now on, all his life he will have to take crucial decisions that will affect his people and his country.

A king took in hand that day a small country which had not yet reached adulthood and brought it up to maturity.

A man who was not spared the worries of life since the day he received a wound in his heart and saw his grandfather agonising, going through numerous attempts on his life.

A king of 49 years of age and 32 years of reign can look today backwards and be proud of what he achieved in his life. As he can confront the future with confidence and wisdom.

I am personally proud to belong to a country ruled by this king. And each time we are caught as it were in a difficulty, each time our neighbours or others bomb us with threats ... I feel confident because he is there.

Happy birthday, your Majesty.

De Beauvoir reviews 'second sex' progress

By Mary Ellen Bortin

Reuser

PARIS — In the space of one generation women have made great strides toward equality, but buried deep inside most men the "macho" beast still lurks — such is the verdict of Simone de Beauvoir 35 years after she published a pioneering feminist study.

Her monumental work, "The Second Sex," planted the seeds of the modern women's movement.

To mark the anniversary, French Television will screen a four-part series based on the book next month featuring Ms. Beauvoir and other personalities including Indian Prime Minister Indira Gandhi, American feminist Kate Millet and writer Norman Mailer.

"Even if men do not understand women's situation, today they are obliged to pretend to understand," Ms. Beauvoir said during a rare public appearance to discuss the television series.

"In the film, you can tell they are fundamentally macho but feel they have to make statements to cover up their sexism."

Relaxed but still able to give a sharp retort, the 76-year-old Beauvoir said she had not changed her mind about much of what she wrote in "The Second Sex" since it was published in 1949.

"I simply take note that much has changed in the direction I had hoped," she said, her bright blue eyes sparkling.

Mr. Beauvoir, who with her companion Jean-Paul Sartre was a leading figure in the heyday of French existentialism in the 1940s, scandalised fellow intellectuals with her unorthodox assessment of the female condition in "The Second Sex."

"One is not born, but rather becomes a woman," she wrote in the book. A wide-angle exploration of sexism viewed through anatomy, history, psychology, sociology, economics and literary criticism, it examined why this has always been a man's world.

With three-and-a-half decades now separating her from the upsurge sparked by the book, Ms. Beauvoir was able to laugh about attacks from even such friends as French existentialist writer and philosopher Albert Camus, originally from Algeria, who accused her of ridiculing the French male.

"Camus said I was a French disease. But of course being a Med-

iterranean, he was totally macho," she said.

Ms. Beauvoir said the television film showed that women today have outdistanced the critics, reducing inequality through laws although they still faced obstacles in many areas of life.

"Many things have changed," she said, singling out the legalisation of contraception and abortion as perhaps the biggest advances to date.

"The fact of being able to plan births is something very important for all women," said Ms. Beauvoir, who had no children in order to devote herself to writing. "They can now have careers they formerly couldn't have dreamed of."

"But many things still remain to be achieved — equal pay for equal work may be legal on paper but it is easy for employers to cheat, the chances for girls and boys are not the same, many careers are still closed to women."

She said problems were particularly acute in many areas of the "Third World," such as India, where bride-burning occurs when the groom's family is dissatisfied with the dowry, or Africa, where excision (female circumcision) is a common practice.

Ms. Beauvoir's film measures the progress made by a generation of women in four hour-long segments reviewing how girls are socialised, marriage and maternity, myths surrounding "the weaker sex" and prospects at work.

"I am not a journalist," Ms. Beauvoir said. "The film is rather a conversation between certain women and myself."

"When I talk about the condition of prostitutes, I let them speak on their own behalf, or when I talk about the problem of excision, I let the black women involved speak for themselves."

The film promises to unleash nearly as much controversy as the book, counterposing appearances by figures as diametrically opposed as French Women's Rights Minister Yvette Roudy and outspoken anti-feminist Phyllis Schlafly of the United States.

Directed by Josee Dayan, who made a film on Ms. Beauvoir's life five years ago, the series based on "The Second Sex" will play during prime time on the TF-1 network from Nov. 14. Ms. Beauvoir says it is designed to speak to the widest possible public.

THEATRE Dark family secrets make for an American tragedy

By Ned Chaffet

LONDON — Language spins out of Sam Shepard with the force of necessity. The characters in his plays have "passions" they must communicate. Since words are never enough, it is the actions of his characters that deliver the visceral kicks.

When "Fool for Love" opens, the seediness of the motel room on the edge of the Mojave Desert is desperation in itself. The woman (Julie Walters) sitting on the iron

bed is rigid with dejection, and the man talking to her is struggling to articulate a kind of reassurance. Eddie (Ian Charleson) promises her that he's not going to leave, but the violence of her emotion only becomes clear when with a single movement she seizes his legs and locks him to the bed. Her silence, the obvious threat of her strength send a chill through the National Cottesloe Theatre.

Mr. Shepard writes about the American family, which he endows with the weight of Greek

myths. In that sense he shares a tradition with Eugene O'Neill, Tennessee Williams, Arthur Miller and Edward Albee. Greek and Roman tragedy, with all their family murders, infidelity, betrayal and serving up of nephews in pies, acquired dignity because the families were royal and because out of that private chaos nations were formed. The American family, particularly for Mr. Shepard, has had to create its own myths and traditions, chasing jobs down interstate highways and stretching

the lines of inheritance across spiralling complications of parenthood and blood ties.

In "Fool for Love," family and passion are one thing, with a half-brother and half-sister locked in an incestuous relationship. Eddie has just driven 2,480 miles — hauling a horse trailer the whole while — to find May. A typical Shepard character is Eddie, who puts flesh on other people's dreams. He is a stuntman for the movies, acting out the skills of the old West while living out a curse, obsession with May. Even his obsession is not quite his own: There is a rich woman in constant pursuit, carrying guns in her lingerie and waiting outside the motel to claim him.

Despite the sometimes wavering accents, this British company stirs up powerful American ghosts in spellbinding acts of violence and love. Peter Gill's production, on a bleak and effective set by Alison Chitty, does not retreat from the harsh words and sudden vicious assaults that the story requires. Each time Eddie or May slams the outside or bathroom doors, the sound should be a cannon shot shaking the theater. When May's friend Martin (David Troughton) bursts in, his tackle carries Eddie across the room. When he attempts to leave, Eddie smashes into the door with his feet to compel Martin to listen to the story of their incestuous love.

Another listener is the Old Man (Tom Watson), the father who ran away when his two women and their children finally met each other. Although he drinks with Eddie and then talks, he is clearly

only symbolically there, the incarnation of an absence. Eddie is only half his son, because unlike his father he cannot stay away from May. Mr. Charleson has 90 per cent of the rage he needs to sustain the fury of the pair, but it is more than enough since Miss Walters has 110 per cent, being fetching, fierce and dangerous all at once.

Mr. Shepard seems to be suggesting that out of this chaos, as out of the chaos of the Greeks, a nation takes shape. The lesson can be read in different ways, for the rough poetry of Mr. Shepard's theatre creates experience and does not deliver sermons. — The Wall Street Journal.



Ancient lane in old Jerusalem — By Jack Kaplanian



Ian Charleson and Julie Walters

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Swedish team ends visit

By Rana Sabbagh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The visiting Swedish handicapped sports team ended their matches Wednesday with a track and field meeting at the Jordan University against a Jordanian handicapped team.

Exhibition trials in 100m, 200m, 400m, 4x100m relay races were held between the Swedish team and their Jordanian counterparts as well as discus throwing and shot put.

An atmosphere of excitement, support and competitiveness prevailed throughout the competitions.

The Swedish team also gave an archery display Wednesday to end the meeting.

Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid attended Wednesday's meeting and distributed medals to all participating in the games.

The Swedish team arrived here on Saturday at the invitation of Prince Ra'd. President of the Jordan Sports Federation for the Handicapped (JSFH). They took part in meetings at the University of Jordan on Monday, Yarmouk University on Tuesday and ended with Wednesday's meeting. Officializing the competitions were referees from the Jordanian Amateur Athletic Federation.

The Swedish team's visit to Amman was sponsored by 30 Swedish industrial companies. Mr. Kenneth Magnusson, representing LIC company, told the Jordan Times that the idea of having the Swedish team come to Amman was endorsed by Prince Ra'd and Princess Majda who are sponsoring (JSFH), and are after all initiatives concerning the disabled and handicapped in Jordan.

Apparently, Mr. Magnusson, who met Prince Ra'd earlier this

year proposed the idea of having the Swedish team for the handicapped to come to Jordan as this team represents the Swedish national squad, which won 153 medals in the 1984 Olympic Games for the Disabled. This team was invited to Jordan so as to participate in disabled performances, help the JSFH team in gaining experience and also to exhibit Swedish rehabilitation equipment. Therefore Swedish industrial and medical companies sponsored their trip.

In an interview with the Jordan Times Mr. Bjorn Corestav, Swedish team's manager said: "We are enjoying our stay in Amman. Of course we are impressed by the standard of the JSFH, which was only established 3 years ago. The unique incident which impressed our team was when we went to Yarmouk University on Tuesday, we had the chance to see a football game in which the JSFH players themselves participated, players were playing football with sticks, and this kind of sport, we have not seen before."

He insisted that the Jordanian citizens should accept the handicapped as normal citizens who are capable of working and marrying, they should become active members in this society.

He was impressed by the skill and enthusiasm of JSFH team. He also noted that the games were seen by a lot of Jordanian handicapped children which motivated them a lot.

Lars Lofstrom, a member of the

Swedish team told the Jordan Times that the team enjoyed their stay in Amman.

"The JSFH team had the chance to see our equipment, they used it and were convinced about the things a disabled is able to do in these chairs, Mr. Lofstrom added.

He pointed out that the Jordanian handicapped should not be spoiled, but should be treated like normal human beings, all of us should give a chance to the handicapped, help them but do not spoil them."

Mr. Lofstrom told the Jordan Times that he is leaving to Baghdad, where he will promote a medical exhibition and deliver a speech about sport facilities in rehabilitation centres and he shall perform sport activities himself.

Miss Thanna Halasa, a Jordanian member of JSFH team said: "We have gained so much experience from the Swedish team, we had the chance to see the latest rehabilitation equipment, we exchanged ideas with our fellow friends from the Swedish team and we proved that the disabled person is capable of leading a normal life. I wish that we will have more of these activities and meetings with experienced handicapped sports groups."

British group climbs Rum mountains

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Four British mountaineers inspired by the famous film production "Lawrence of Arabia", have set themselves on a long trip from England to the rose-pink mountains of Wadi Rum in Jordan only to unravel the marvels which were in store for them.

While watching the film Lawrence of Arabia in Wadi Rum, "we saw in the background of some scenes, the mountains of Rum and since then we decided to take the trip and explore these mountains, a mission which took 12 months of preparation," Tony Howard told the Jordan Times.

The four adventurers had contacted the Department of Tourism in Amman to seek assistance and coordination for the trip. The department responded favourably and co-sponsored the trip which is hoped to turn the mountains of Rum into another tourist attraction, particularly for mountaineers.

The mountaineers who have just returned from a five-week adventure in the mountains of Rum, said that they spent the first two weeks exploring the mountains and getting to know the area. "Later we made five im-

portant climbs which we can simply describe as spectacular and unprecedented," Howard who with his three companions have more than 20 years of experience in climbing said.

He said that climbing Rum mountains was not quite easy as they expected but "the difficulty is part of the excitement." The group spent three months each year outside England exploring mountains all over the world. In the Arab World, they climbed mountains in Algeria, Tunisia, Egypt, and Sudan.

Describing their experience in mountaineering in Rum mountains, the four adventurers said the biggest challenge was Jabal Rum which is the highest at 900 metres. "We reached places no one has ever reached. We reached intriguing and fascinating high desert areas — the summit is a plateau where we found trees and wildlife — something we never saw before throughout our mountaineering experience," Howard said.

"When you reach the plateau you would find a six splitting the mountain and you can spend days in finding another path to lead you to the summit — which is our knowledge, there is nothing like it in the world," he said, describing the unique experience of the four-member group.

The group also includes Alan Baker, Diane Taylor and Mick Shaw. They spoke to the Jordan Times about domes of rock and arches of stone they saw on their way to the summit of Jabal Rum. They took photographs and drew maps passages in the mountains which they will be sending to the department of tourism from London.

On their adventurous mission, they were accompanied first by a guide from the tourism department. They were also supplied by a four-wheel drive vehicle to get them through difficult tracks.

The group spoke enthusiastically of their experience with bedouins in Wadi Rum whom they described as "welcoming and friendly and incredibly helpful. It seems they are the only ones in Jordan who know their way in the desert," Howard said.

The mountaineers are leaving Jordan Thursday to return next spring or summer for more climbing and exploration in the Wadi Rum mountains. "We hope to encourage mountaineers in Europe and the U.S. to visit Wadi Rum and share with us our experience," Howard told the Jordan Times. The group will be publishing in magazines specialised in the sport about their unique experience in Jordan.

England trounces Turkey 8-0 in qualifier

ISTANBUL (R) — England, inspired by a driving three-goal performance from captain Bryan Robson, moved a step closer towards qualifying for the World Cup finals by demolishing Turkey 8-0 in their European Group Three tie Wednesday.

Three goals in the first half and five in the second left the Turks stunned on their first encounter with England.

Robson put England ahead with a brave header after 13 minutes, scrambled the third after 44 minutes and completed his hat-trick with a solo goal midway through the second half.

The other scorers in England's biggest away win since May 1964, when they beat the United States 10-0 in New York, were striker Tony Woodcock and winger John Barnes with two apiece and

right-back Viv Anderson. After their 5-0 thrashing of Finland at Wembley last month, England top their group with a maximum four points and an emphatic 13-0 goal difference.

England established an early superiority and never lost their grip in a match that kept Peter Shilton could almost have played in an armchair.

England opened the scoring after 13 minutes of constant pressure on the Turkish defence following a cross by John Barnes. Viv Anderson nodded on to Bryan Robson who headed past goalkeeper Yasar Duran from close range.

Four minutes later, Tony Woodcock took advantage of a mistake by Turkish midfielder Rasit Cetiner and scored with a left-foot shot on the run.

England made it 3-0 after 44 minutes when Williams left Duran standing with a shot that hit a post and rebounded for Robson to score.

Turkey had little left to offer in the second half and John Barnes quickly added England's fourth and fifth goals.

Just four minutes after the break, he took a cross from Robson and scored with a first-time shot at the far post. In the 56th minute, he was able to stumble the ball into the net after a challenge near the penalty spot with Duran.

Robson scored his third and England's sixth when he ran on to a through pass from Wilkins and ran on to score with a low left-foot shot.

The handful of England fans in the packed stadium had almost stopped counting by the time

Woodcock made it 7-0, beating Duran and a defender after receiving a long ball from Anderson.

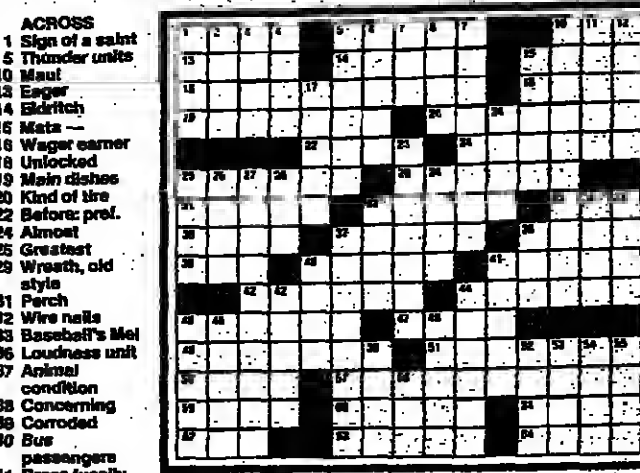
Shilton faced his first real challenge in the 85th minute when he had to save from Erdal Keser. England responded immediately with Anderson making it 8-0 a minute later with a header from a corner by Barnes.

It was England's biggest victory since they beat Luxembourg 9-0 at Wembley in December 1982 and provided emphatic evidence that they are determined to make certain of qualifying for the Mexico finals in 1986 without mishap.

But any judgment of the quality of England's performance must be tempered by the desperately poor opposition provided by Turkey, who lacked strength, team-work and determination.

THE Daily Crossword

by Marsha J. De Witt



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1 Sign of a saint	8 Lower's music	15 Nobleman	32 Hatless
5 Thunder units	10 The folding stuff	44 Supplicant	33 Mine entrance
10 Mast	11 Of a neighborhood	45 Ancient Arab	34 Horseman's aid
12 Engr	12 Lequacious	46 Ancient Arab	35 Western
14 Skiffish	15 Dike, levee and	47 Phrygian	36 Heavy volume
16 Mata	16 Economic	48 Marmalade	37 In the line
18 Wager earner	17 Lovers	49 Marmalade	
19 Unlocked	21 Savanna hay	50 Marmalade	
20 Kind of fire	22 Sincere		
22 Before prod.	23 Major		
24 Almost	25 How a lion		
26 Greatest	27 Phrase re		
28 Wreath, old	28 power of wealth		
31 Perch	29 Chemical soft		
32 Wire nails	30 Haspecks		
33 Baseball's Mel	31 Farm structure		
36 Loudness unit	32 Tolu or tupelo		
37 Animal condition	33 Care for		
38 Concerning	34 Mortar shell		
39 Corroded	35 Flower		
40 Bus passengers	36 Noah's craft		
41 Pines	37 Quay		
44 — upon			
45 (circled)			
46 Hare at			
47 "To catch the way"			
48 Currency			
49 Transmitter			
50 Aglow			
51 Statueque			
52 Legal matter			
53 Inquiries			
54 Ham it up			
55 Cattle long			
56 Legal matter			
57 More recent			
58 Printing direction			

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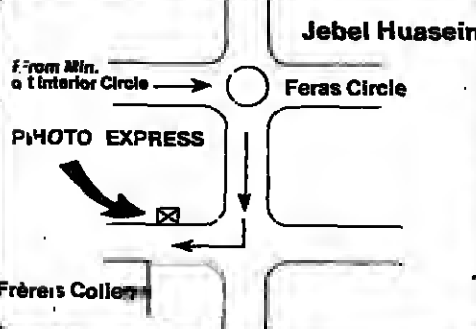
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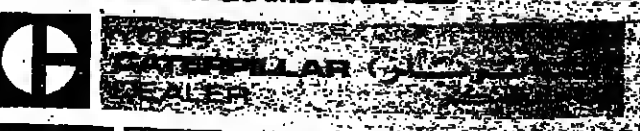
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EC fails to agree Iberian entry terms

debate in criticising national governments for submitting a draft containing essential finance for less than a year.

Because the community is running out of money and cannot agree on how to cover an expected deficit, the council of ministers has presented a draft which parliamentarians say will fund essential spending for 10 months.

The budget committee is urging parliament to press for a full 12-month budget and wants an extra 2.8 billion European Currency Units (ECUs) (\$2.1 billion) in advances from the 10 member states to meet farm subsidy obligations and a one billion ECUS (\$750 million) net budget rebate for Britain.

commission as members of parliament were called on to deliver an unprecedented rebuke over its budget management.

Shortly before a long voting session begins on the first legislative stages of the community's 1985 budget, members of parliament are to be asked to refuse to give final approval to the way the commission implemented the community's 1982 budget.

Such a step, known technically as a refusal to grant discharge, has been recommended by the ass-

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Share prices closed above their lows having moved lower at the outset, dealers said. At 1530 GMT the FTSE 100 index was down 2.1 at 1181.6 after 1175.6 initially.

Prices were marked down after Wall Street's sharply lower close Tuesday but continued hopes of a further cut in U.K. base rates soon lifted many issues to just below Tuesday's record high levels.

Government bonds reversed initial ¼ point falls helped by steady sterling but trading remained cautious in response to continued weakness on U.S. credit markets. Gold shares were lower and North Americans mixed.

ICI returned to 668 after 666, Thorn EMI firmed 1p at 480 after 476 and Beecham added 5p to 363.

Johnston Matthey dropped 15p to 123 following year results while Smiths Industries added 15p on annual figures. Among firm insurances Commercial Union, also reporting results Wednesday, added 1p to 174 having dipped to 169. Banks mirrored the general trend with Barclays off 2p at 539 after 532 while Midland returned to 369 after 367.

Oils moved higher against the trend. B.P. rose 8p to 493 and Lasso gained 15p to 358. In food retailers Tesco eased 5p to 211 after interim figures.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One sterling	1.2680/90	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3140/43	Canadian dollars
	2.9490/9510	West German marks
	3.3260/3300	Dutch guilders
	2.4300/20	Swiss francs
	59.58/63	Belgian francs
	9.0500/0600	French francs
	1834.0/1837.0	Italian lire
	241.20/35	Japanese yen
	8.4825/4975	Swedish crowns
	8.5975/6125	Norwegian crowns
	10.6575/6675	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	346.50/347.00	U.S. dollars

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HOW DID IT GO, ANDY?

FIFTY FIFTY-

ALES

I SHOWED UP AND MY MISSUS DIDN'T

U.K. may cut overseas aid

LONDON (R) — Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher Tuesday defended Britain's foreign aid record but failed to dispel opposition fears of imminent cuts in cash for the Third World. Mrs. Thatcher was asked in parliament whether budget figures for the foreign office meant that Britain would have to trim its aid total.

The figures showed that the foreign office, which administers overseas aid, would have its overall budget pegged at £1,870 million (\$2,340 million) next year.

Mrs. Thatcher said it was up to Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe to decide where to make savings within his ministry.

She added that the existing aid budget "has indeed allowed us to respond to Ethiopia and there will be no question but that we could respond in future in the same way to humanitarian aid."

Foreign office sources said higher rates of inflation overseas could mean a decrease in the real value of the aid budget. Sir Howe would announce spending plans in the next few days.

YOUR DAILY
Horoscope
from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, NOV., 15, 1984

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The early part of the day is splendid for going after what you desire with the greatest possible amount of vision and imagination and to get the support and backing of prominent persons.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Put those good creative ideas to work early and gain fine benefits, but later you will have to stop and handle a pressing obligation.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Start that activity that will bring pleasure to those who dwell with you, and then handle that outside problem that is annoying you.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Daytime is fine for communicating well with others, so get busy early, but tonight you find that quarrels could start easily.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) You have fine ideas for earning more money so carry through with them wisely, and later don't be extravagant.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) You want more happiness and can have it provided you come to right decisions and act quickly.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) You get a vision of great abundance and can plan how to gain it, but in the evening steer clear of a troublesome neighbor or relative.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) If you state your aims to a generous friend, you can get backing you need, but later a money problem bothers you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You can advance quickly now if you pursue your goals vigorously. Later you may have to handle personal problematical affairs.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You can look into many advanced ideas today and this will help you to get ahead faster.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Get any business matters handled wisely that may come up in the morning, but in the evening avoid a new acquaintance.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) A wide-awake partner can give you the backing you need at this time for something that means much to you.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You find it easy to get your surroundings improved now, but steer clear of some new temptation in the evening.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she can study plans of great scope and understand them well, so be sure to slant the education along such lines as engineering, politics or law. The career can start very early in life when the mind and body are fresh.

